

Message Text

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SUBJ: SOMALI PRESS CONFERENCE ON SOUTH AFRICA SHOOTING AND
ISRAELI-SYRIAN AIR BATTLE

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, ABDURAHMAN JAMA BARRE, MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT. 16, 1973 TO
CONDEMN THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT. FOR SHOOTING 11 AFRICANS, AND
ALSO CONDEMNED ISRAEL, THE ZIONISTS AND IMPERIALISTS FOR
AGGRESSIONS AGAINST THE ARABS.

EXCERPTS AS FOLLOWS: "AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE THE RACIST REGIME
IN SOUTH AFRICA HAS COMMITTED YET ANOTHER MASSACRE AGAINST
THE AFRICAN PEOPLE IN THAT COUNTRY BY SHOOTING AND KILLING
11 AFRICANS WHO TOGETHER WITH THEIR AFRICAN BROTHERS WERE
RIGHTFULLY PROTESTING AGAINST THE INHUMAN WORKING CONDITIONS
IN THE GOLD MINES.

"THIS LATEST MASSACRE IN SOUTH AFRICA IS SIMILAR TO THE
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UNFORGETTABLE AND TERRIBLE KILLINGS THAT OCCURRED AT SHAPRES-

VILLE IN 1960, WHEN THE RACIST AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA
SHOT DOWN IN COLD BLOOD 69 AFRICANS....

"WHILE THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC SUPPORT; AS A MATTER OF DUTY, THEIR AFRICAN BROTHERS
AND SISTERS UNDER THE COLONIAL AND RACIAL OPPRESSION IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE, WE IN THE WAKE OF THIS NEW
MASSACRE, WISH TO APPEAL TO ALL PEACE AND FREEDOM LOVING
COUNTRIES TO CONDEMN THE RACIST REGIME IN SOUTH AFRICA, TO
DEPLORE HER WANTON KILLING OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE AND EFFECT
HER TOTAL ISOLATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THIS
IS A TEST FOR HUMAN CONSCIENCE AS MUCH AS IT IS A CHALLENGE
TO INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES.

"ISRAEL WHICH IS A TIME-PROVEN INTERNATIONAL DELIQUENT AND
AN ENEMY OF JUSTICE AND FREEDOM HAS ONCE AGAIN COMMITTED
AGGRESSION AGAINST THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF SYRIA BY SENDING 64
WAR PLANES INTO THE SYRIAN TERRITORIAL AIRSPACE AND ATTACKED
SYRIAN PLANES. OBVIOUSLY, THE SYRIAN AIR FORCE HAS THE SACRED
DUTY TO DEFEND THEIR COUNTRY AGAINST THE ISRAELI AGGRESSORS.

"AS THOSE IN THE PAST, THE AGGRESSION PROVES BEYOND ANY
DOUBT THAT ISRAEL CONSTITUTES A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY.

"THEREFORE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER
AND RESOLUTIONS AND IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RESOLUTION AND
DECLARATIONS ADOPTED IN MANY INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CON-
FERENCES SUCH AS THE OAU AND THE RECENT NON-ALIGNED CON-
FERENCE HELD IN ALGIERS, IT IS AN INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION THAT
ISRAEL SHOULD BE COMPELLED TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ITS
AGGRESSIONS AGAINST THE ARAB STATES, TO WITHDRAW FROM THE
ARAB TERRITORY SHE OCCUPIED IN 1967 AND TO RESTORE TO THE
ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS TO THEIR
HOME-LAND.

"THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC RE-
PUBLIC WILL CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE STRUGGLE OF THE ARAB
PEOPLE TO RECOVER THEIR LAND AND REGAIN THEIR RIGHTS. WE
CONDEMN, IN THE MOST STRONGEST TERMS, ISRAEL AND THE ZIONISTS
AND IMPERIALISTS WHO AID AND ABET HER AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS."
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